Hosting of WTTC Summit

4297. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India bagged the proposal for hosting of the WTTC Summit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the basic things that have gone in favour of India;

(d) whether it is likely to attract a large foreign investment in tourism; and

(e) if so, the amount of investment likely to be made and what are the proposals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) India was chosen as the venue for the 5th Global Travel and Tourism Summit. The other countries considered for the same were USA and China. Holding of such a Summit gives us an opportunity to promote and showcase India's tourism product in order to attract foreign direct investment in the tourism sector.

(d) and (e) The Summit attracted a number of delegates representing travel and tourism industry in foreign countries. It is likely that some of these would consider investment in India.

Special package to boost tourism in Tsunami-hit States

4298. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry has written to Government that the Island is losing Rs. 40 lakhs daily because of fall in tourism inflow;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to announce a special package to boost tourism in Tsunami-hit States of India; and

(d) if so, by when and State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI

RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Andaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry has written to the Government that they estimate a daily loss to the tourism industry at over Rs. 30 lakhs.

(c) and (d) An Integrated Media strategy has been developed to boost tourism ih the Tsunami hit States of India, comprising the following:

1. Familiarisation trips of Tour Operators/Media Representatives.
2. Brochure/Map/Posters/CD Roms for distribution.
3. Electronic Media Campaign.
4. Print Media Campaign.
5. Use of Internet for marketing of such States in the international as well as domestic markets.

Promoting night bazaars

4299. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start nigh bazaars in all cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether her Ministry has written a letter to the Chief Ministers of ail States and Administrators of Union Territories to explore possibilities to start night bazaars;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the States and Union Territories to the said communication?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (e) Ministry of Tourism has evolved a concept of Night Bazaar as an attempt to provide a unique shopping experience as well as to preserve and nourish the traditional art, craft and cultural forms of the country. The first project "Mumbai Mela" in January 2005 was supported by the Ministry. The first Night Bazaar in Delhi has been started *w.e.f.* 27/03/05 at Lily Pool Lawns of Hotel Ashok.

Agreement with Italy on tourism

4300. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.